

Filed for intro on 04/17/2002

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 656  
By Graves

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Lydia Collins, 2002  
Valedictorian of Portland High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those students who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic excellence, have distinguished themselves in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Miss Lydia Collins is one such exceptional student who was recently named Valedictorian of the 2002 graduating class at Portland High School; and

WHEREAS, through diligent study, steady composure during examinations, and steadfast commitment of time and talent, Lydia has achieved outstanding academic success, and has joined the ranks of the best and brightest students in Tennessee and our country; and

WHEREAS, in her remarkable high school career, she earned an exemplary grade point average; and

WHEREAS, due to her outstanding commitment to academic excellence, Miss Collins has earned numerous honors and awards, including the Honors English 10 Award, the DAR

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Good Citizen Award, and has been named as an All-American Scholar in History and Student Government; and

WHEREAS, a multi-talented individual, Lydia possesses tremendous athletic talent as she has participated on the freshman basketball, varsity cross-country and softball teams; Miss Collins also displayed her exceptional musical ability during her membership in the chorus during her freshman year; and

WHEREAS, highly respected as a leader among her peers, Miss Collins is active in numerous scholastic organizations, including the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Future Business Leaders of America, the National Beta Club, the Math Team, the Academic Team, the National Honor Society and the National Council for the Social Studies; and

WHEREAS, an active member of her community, Lydia volunteers her time and services to many organizations and community activities, including the Foundry, the Oakmont Carnival, the Portland Craft Fair, Community Kindness projects, and the Christian Association for the Relief of Economic Suffering; and

WHEREAS, she was listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* for her dedication to scholastic achievement and her commitment to community service; and

WHEREAS, a young lady of impeccable character, Miss Collins is an integral part of her church's youth group, where she has participated in mission trips, service projects, Vacation Bible School, the Youth Council, the Summer Youth Camp and the Youth Choir; and

WHEREAS, Lydia Collins' display of intellectual aptitude and ambition surely bodes well for her future success; and

WHEREAS, Lydia's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for her parents, Randy and Betsy Collins, her school, and her community; and

WHEREAS, Miss Collins' dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, That we hereby commend and honor 2002 Portland High School Valedictorian, Lydia Collins, on her impressive academic achievement, and extend to her our best wishes for a happy, successful future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.